



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Washington, D.C.
20250

FEB 1 2002

Dr. Eliezer Nili
Director, Control of Animal Products
Veterinary Services and Animal Health
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
State of Israel
P.O. Box 12
Beit Dagan, 50250
Israel

Dear Dr. Nili:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final report of the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) May 29 through June 14, 2001 audit of Israel's poultry inspection system. We understand that the Government of Israel elected not to provide comments to the Draft Final report of the same audit and the deficiencies noted during the audit have been corrected. We appreciate your thorough review of the FSIS audit findings and the corrective actions taken to ensure that poultry products exported to the United States meet U.S. import requirements.

I also want to take this opportunity to inform you that FSIS proposes to conduct its Fiscal Year 2002 on-site audit of Israel's poultry inspection system from February 28 through March 21, 2002. Dr. Judd Gizentanner, FSIS auditor, is scheduled to conduct the audit. The potential scope of the audit will encompass all of the regulations, activities and procedures of your country's inspection system that are applicable to establishments certified to export poultry to the United States.

I have enclosed a copy of the audit plan to give you general information concerning the dates of the audit and certain requirements regarding FSIS audits of foreign inspection systems. Please note that the audit plan does not contain the complete itinerary of the auditor. We will work with the Government of Israel through the Agriculture Attaché in the American Embassy in Tel Aviv and send the itinerary to you before the audit begins.

If you have any questions concerning the information in this letter, please contact me at telephone number 202-720-3781, facsimile number 202-690-4040, or email address (sally.stratmoen@fsis.usda.gov).

Sincerely,

Sally Stratmoen, Chief
Equivalence Section
International Policy Staff
Office of Policy, Program Development
and Evaluation

Enclosures

cc:

Jacob Sagiv, Embassy of Israel, Washington, DC
Tom Pomeroy, Agriculture Counselor, American Embassy, Cairo
Tully Friedgut, Agriculture Attaché, American Embassy, Tel Aviv
John Wilson, FAS Area Officer
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Amy Winton, State Department
Country File-Israel (Audit FY-2001)

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